BHEL has been facing majordisruption in production due to want of orders;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made into the lack of orders:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stepe being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Based on firm orders in hand, capacity utilisation in future will not be adequate. The lack of orders whh BHEL is d\ic to resource constraints with the customers. BHEL is adopting the following approach to improve the order book position :—

Greater thrust on exports (both physical and deemed) by focussing on specific potential areas. A company-wide programme to obtain SO-9000 quality certification is being pursued.

Mopping up business from existing power stations through life extension renovation/ modernisation of old equipment.

Diversification into new synergistic growth areas where BIIEL's existing infrastructure, skills and capabilities could be gainfully utilised.

Joint working with reputed companies by formulating bids with consortium arrangements for power generation both in private and public sectors.

Marketing drive to obtain balance orders of Vill and IX Plan for power generating equipment.

Retaining market leadership in existing areas by selective modernisation/upgradation of facilities and technologies.

Dcrcsorvalion or Items

604. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRIDHAR PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision towards dercservation of items like machine made footwear, textiles, etc: and

(b) if so. whether this would affect the SSls ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRl M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rise in Prices of Newsprint by the Public Sector Units

605. DR. SANJAYA SINII: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Sector newsprint mills have recently effected a steep-rise in the prices of newsprint:

(b) if so. the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the newsprint mills have not yet passed on the concessions given by Government by way of abolition of Customs duty in the import of wooden pulp;

4c) if so. the details thereof: and

(0 what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. (HNL) and Tamil Nadu Newsprint & Papers Ltd. (TNPL) have increased their prices of newsprint in June. 199.1 by Rs. 1000 *&* Rs. 500 per metric tonne respectively. The increases in their prices arc reported to be mainly due to escalations in iiiput costs during the last one year.

(d) to (0 There is no statutory control over the price of newsprint. However, newsprint mills have informed that the escalation in input costs have been much more than the concession accruing from the abolition of customs duty on the import of wood pulp. The mills have taken into account the concessions given while revising their prices.

C&AG Report on PSUs

606. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the C&AG report in the House a few months hack wherein Public Sector Undertakings were